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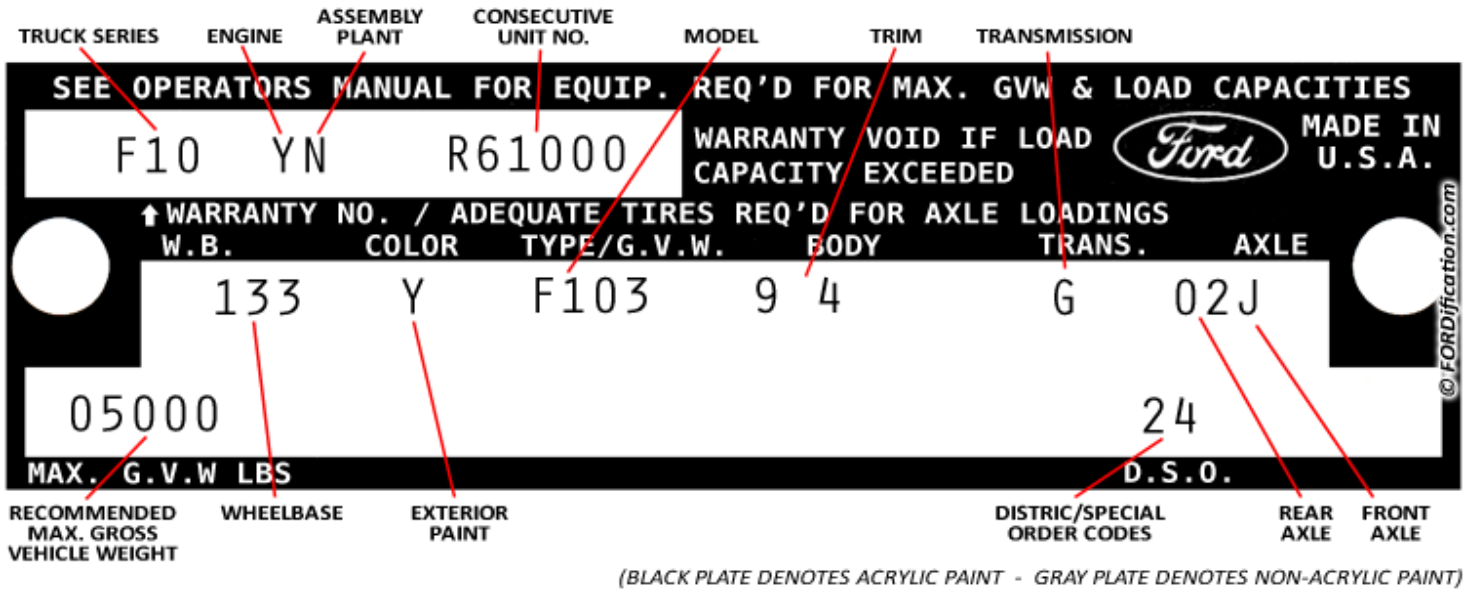
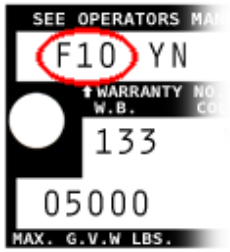
# 1973-1979 Ford F-series Truck VIN (Warranty) Tag Decoding




*(BLACK PLATE DENOTES ACRYLIC PAINT - GRAY PLATE DENOTES NON-ACRYLIC PAINT)*

THE FIRST LINE




## Series Code

The first three digits of the warranty or vehicle vehicle identification number indicate the truck series.

**CLICK HERE** to see a complete listing of Series Codes.

## Engine Code

The fourth digit of the warranty or vehicle identification number indicates basic engine identification. The chart at right shows engines used in the F-series light-duty trucks (F100/150/250/350) only.

*SOURCE: 1973-1979 Ford Truck Master Parts Catalog - Oct. 1979*

| CODE | YEAR | CYL | C.I.D. | Carb | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | '73-'74 | 6 | 240 | 1-bbl. | Exc. California |
| | '75-'79 | 8 | 460* | 4-bbl. | 7.5 Litre |
| B | '73-'79 | 6 | 300 | 1-bbl. | 4.9 Litre |
| G | '73-'79 | 8 | 302 | 2-bbl. | 5.0 Litre |
| H | '73-'76 | 8 | 390* | 2-bbl. | |
| | '77-'79 | 8 | 351 | 2-bbl | 5.8 Litre |
| J | '73-'79 | 8 | 460* | 4-bbl. | 7.5 Litre |
| M | '75-'76 | 8 | 390* | 4-bbl. | |
| S | '77-'79 | 8 | 400 | 2-bbl. | 6.6 Litre |
| Y | '73-'76 | 8 | 360 | 2-bbl. | |
| 1 | '73-'76 | 6 | 240 | 1-bbl. | Low compression - D.S.O. |
| 5 | '74 | 8 | 360 | 2-bbl | Low compression - D.S.O. |

** 390 and 460 engines not available from the factory w/ 4WD trucks.*

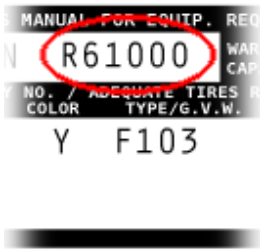
## Assembly Plant Code

The fifth digit of the warranty or vehicle identification number indicates the plant at which the vehicle was assembled.

*SOURCE: 1973-1979 Ford Truck Master Parts Catalog - Oct. 1979*

| CODE | ASSEMBLY PLANT |
|---|---|
| B | Oakville |
| C | Ontario Truck |
| E | Manwah |
| H | Lorain |
| I | Highland Park |
| K | Kansas City |
| L | Michigan Truck |

| CODE | ASSEMBLY PLANT |
|---|---|
| N | Norfolk |
| P | Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St Paul) |
| R | San Jose |
| S | Pilot Plant (Allen Park) |
| U | Louisville |
| V | Kentucky Truck |




## Numerical Sequence of Assembly

A production serial number system is used to identify model years. The numbers shown below apply to all (except E-series).

| From Serial No. | To Serial Number | Cataloged as Model Year |
|---|---|---|
| Q00,001 | S60,000 | 1973 |
| S60,001 | V20,000 | 1974 |
| V20,001 | X40,000 | 1975 |
| A00,000 | D25,000 | 1976 |
| O00,001 | O99,999 | 1977 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| X80,001 | Z25,000 | |
| AE0,001 | CK9,999 | 1978 |
| DC0,001 | FK9,000 | 1979 |
| *SOURCE: 1973-1979 Ford Truck Master Parts Catalog - Oct. 1979* | | |

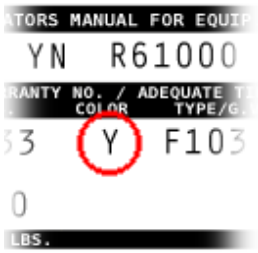
Due to varying production volumes, the exact serial number with which a change becomes effective cannot be determined. When selecting part numbers referenced to serial numbers, the catalog specifications should be used as an aid in selecting the proper part number.

Note that up through 1977, the serial number consisted of one letter and 5 numbers (e.g. X00,000). From 1978, it changed to two letters followed by four numbers (e.g. XX0,000).

## THE SECOND LINE

### Wheelbase

The actual wheelbase in inches is shown on the rating or warranty plate.




### Color Code - Exterior Paint

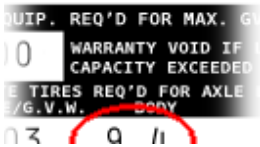
The code under "Color" indicates the exterior paint of the vehicle.

**CLICK HERE** to view the U.S. and Canadian exterior paint usage codes with Ford part numbers.

### Model Code

The model code under "TYPE/G.V.W." indicates truck series and the corresponding G.V.W. rating.

**CLICK HERE** to view the complete listing of model codes.




### Body Code

The first two digits of the three-digit body code is the trim code and identifies the color and type of materials used in the interior upholstery. (If only a single-digit trim code, there will be a

**Body Type Descriptions**

80 - Platform
83 - Flareside pickup box

space between the first and last digit, as shown here.) The third digit identifies the type of back of cab equipment.
THIS SECTION WILL BE EXPANDED SHORTLY

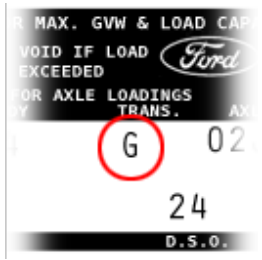
86 - Platform and Rack
99 - Styleside pickup box

| FIRST DIGIT | SECOND DIGIT | THIRD DIGIT | DESCRIPTION | CAB PARTS | BEHIND CAB PARTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B thru G | FOR FORD INTERNAL CONTROL ONLY | 4 | Ranger cab w/ styleside pickup box | 81E (exc. Crew Cab) | 99 |
| | | D | Ranger cab w/ styleside pickup box | 81E (Crew Cab) | 99 |
| K thru O | | 4 | Ranger XLT cab w/ styleside pickup box | Ranger XLT (exc. Crew Cab) | 99 |
| 2 thru 6 | | D | Ranger XLT cab w/ styleside pickup box | Ranger XLT (Crew Cab) | 99 |
| | | 3 | Custom cab w/ flareside box | 81A | 83 |
| | | 4 | Custom cab w/styleside box | 81A (exc. Crew Cab) | 99 |
| | | D | Custom cab w/ styleside pickup box | 81A (Crew Cab) | 99 |
| | | 5 | Custom cab w/ platform and racks | 81A | 86 |
| | | 7 | Cowl (less windshield) | 84 | - |
| | | 8 | Custom cab w/o back of cab equipment | 81A (exc. Crew Cab) | - |
| | | G | Custom cab w/o back of cab equipment | 81A (Crew Cab) | - |
| | | 9 | Custom cab w/ platform | 81A | 80 |

| TRIM CODES BY YEAR | \| 1973 \| 1974 \| 1975 \| 1976 \| 1977 \| 1978 \| 1979 \| |
|---|---|

*SOURCE: 1973-1979 Ford Truck Master Parts Catalog - Oct. 1979*

## Transmission Code

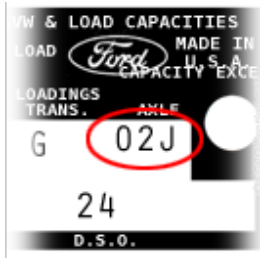



| CODE | YEAR | SPD | DESCR. | TYPE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **A** | '73-'79 | 4 | Manual | New Process 435 |
| **C** | '73-'79 | 3 | Manual | Ford |
| **E** | '73-'79 | 4 | Manual (D.S.O.) * | Warner T19 |
| **F** | '73-'79 | 4 | Manual | Warner T18 |
| **G** | '73-'79 | 3 | Automatic | Ford |

* Domestic Special Order

| CODE | YEAR | SPD | DESCR. | TYPE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **J** | '79 | 3 | Automatic | Ford |
| **K** | '79 | 3 | Automatic | Ford |
| **P** | '73-'79 | 4 | Manual | Warner T-19 |
| **X** | '78-'79 | 3 | Automatic | C-6 (Fleet only) |
| **Z** | '77 | 3 | Automatic | C-6 (Fleet only) |

*SOURCE: 1973-1979 Ford Truck Master Parts Catalog*




## Axle Code

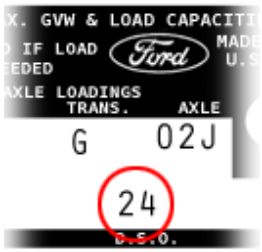
The first two digits of the axle code identify the ratio and capacity of the rear axle. The third digit of the axle code identifies the ratio and/or capacity of the front axle, if applicable.

**CLICK HERE** to see a complete listing of **rear** axle codes
**CLICK HERE** to see a complete listing of **front** axle codes

# THE THIRD LINE

## Gross Vehicle Weight

The gross vehicle weight rating for the vehicle (based on minimum equipment required).




## District Code

The code shown identifies the district which ordered the unit.

If the vehicle is built on a D.S.O (Domestic Special Order), F.S.O. (Foreign Special Order) or L.S.O. (Limited Production Option), the complete order (invoice) number will also be shown after the District Code Number.

| Code | District |
|---|---|
| 11 | Boston |
| 12 | Buffalo |
| 13 | New York |
| 14 | Pittsburgh |
| 15 | Newark |
| 16 | Philadelphia |
| 17 | Washington |
| 21 | Atlanta |
| 22 | Charlotte |
| 23 | Memphis |
| 24 | Jacksonville |
| 25 | Richmond |
| 26 | New Orleans |
| 28 | Louisville |
| 41 | Chicago |
| 42 | Cleveland |
| 43 | Milwaukee |
| 45 | Lansing |
| 46 | Indianapolis |
| 47 | Cincinnati |
| 48 | Detroit |

| Code | District |
|---|---|
| 52 | Dallas |
| 53 | Kansas City |
| 54 | Omaha |
| 55 | St. Louis |
| 56 | Davenport |
| 57 | Hudson |
| 58 | Twin Cities |
| 71 | Los Angeles |
| 72 | San Jose |
| 73 | Salt Lake City |
| 74 | Seattle |
| 75 | Phoenix |
| 76 | Denver |
| 83 | Government |
| 84 | Home Office Reserve |
| 85 | American Red Cross |
| 86 | Recreation |
| 87 | Body Company |
| 89 | Transportation Service |
| | |
| 90-99 | Export |

| Ford of Canada | |
|---|---|
| **Code** | **District** |
| A1 | Central (Lincoln/Mercury) |
| A2 | Eastern (Lincoln/Mercury) |
| A3 | Atlantic (Lincoln/Mercury) |
| A4 | Midwestern (Lincoln/Mercury) |
| A6 | Western (Lincoln/Mercury) |
| A7 | Pacific (Lincoln/Mercury) |
| A8 | Great Lakes (Lincoln/Mercury) |
| B1 | Central (Ford) |
| B2 | Eastern (Ford) |
| B3 | Atlantic (Ford) |
| B4 | Midwestern (Ford) |
| B6 | Western (Ford) |
| B7 | Pacific (Ford) |
| B8 | Great Lakes (Ford |
| | |
| I2 | Export |

*SOURCE: 1973-1979 Ford Truck Master Parts Catalog - Oct. 1979*

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